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New Beginnings

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New Beginnings

Four score and seven years ago... no... * drop notecard *

To buy: Nutella, ice cream, more Nutella... no... * drop notecard *

* Shuffle through notecards *

Here it is! My fellow Americans... that's not right... * drop notecard *

I am Jake Thaker, and as your next Student Senate President, I promise unlimited free selfies with President Wilson at his discretion! * drop notecard *

Nope.

Ah. Hey. Are you a camera? 'Cuz everytime I look at you , I smile... * drop notecard *

Hello, I'm here to talk to you about littering. * drop notecard *

Welcome to a new beginning. Literally of my speech, but also a new chapter of your lives. Welcome to a blank slate. Welcome to Illinois Wesleyan University, where people don't care about what you've done wrong in the past—whether that be failed relationships, classes, and choices.

Life is all about new beginnings. We celebrate every new year with resolutions to improve personal fitness, relationships, and both career and academic choices. This is the exact same thing, with one exception: here at IWU, you have a community of people to help you achieve exactly what you want and then some.

Life is all about new beginnings. I entered Wesleyan as an Economics major, but was completely captivated by what I was taught in my introductory physics class. I am now a Physics major.

Life is all about new beginnings. Before coming to Illinois Wesleyan, I was not involved in student government. Hell, I didn't even know much about politics, except that Obama was President and that Lincoln wore an epic hat.

Life is all about new beginnings. I've been a musician my whole life, but never got to truly experience the feeling of being a rock star, which is every kid's dream. Having participated in two showings of Wesleyan's battle of the bands, called Undercover, I can say I've felt like a rock star and then some.

Life is all about new beginnings. Don't think of negative situations as "wasted time." Think about it as a minor littering infraction. All you have to do is pick up your cards (pick up cards, smile, and try again.

Good luck Class of 2019!